

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 6/30/2003

GAIN Report Number: MX3089

Mexico

Avocado

More Avocado Producing Municipalities in Michoacan Declared Free of Pests

2003

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Report Highlights:

On June 23, 2003 the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishery and Food (SAGARPA) published in the "*Diario Oficial*" the Announcement that declares the municipalities of Tinguindin, Xhaniro, San Juanico, Chucandiran, El Mercado, El Moral y Guascaro in the state of Michoacan, free of the avocado seed weevil *Conotrachelus aguacatae*, *C. perseae*, *Heilipus lauri* and the seed moth *Stenoma catenifer*.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Mexico [MX1]
[MX]

Introduction: This report summarizes an announcement published in Mexico's "*Diario Oficial*" (Federal Register) on June 23, 2003.

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a *cursory* review of the subject announcement and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests. In the event of a discrepancy or discrepancies between this summary and the complete regulation or announcement as published in Spanish, the latter shall prevail.

Title: Announcement that declares the municipalities of Tinguindin, Xhaniro, San Juanico, Chucandiran, El Mercado, El Moral y Guascaro in the state of Michoacan, free of the avocado seed weevil *Conotrachelus aguacatae*, *C. perseae*, *Heilipus lauri* and the seed moth *Stenoma catenifer*.

Type of Regulation: Announcement

Important Dates

1. Publication Date: June 23, 2003

2. Effective Date: June 24, 2003

Products Affected: Avocados

FAS/Mexico's Executive Summary: On June 23, 2003, the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishery and Food (SAGARPA) published in the "*Diario Oficial*" the Announcement that declares the municipalities of Tinguindin, Xhaniro, San Juanico, Chucandiran, El Mercado, El Moral y Guascaro in the state of Michoacan, free of the avocado seed weevils *Conotrachelus aguacatae*, *C. perseae*, *Heilipus lauri* and the seed moth *Stenoma catenifer*.

The announcement was made after SAGARPA verified that, as a result of the repeated area surveys and inspections of orchards and processed fruit by Michoacan Plant Health authorities, the cited municipalities in Michoacan have been free of pests for over two years and are likely to remain free of the pest. According to SAGARPA, producers are implementing and applying the appropriate phytosanitary procedures as established in the Mexican Official Norm NOM-066-FITO-2002 "that establishes the specifications for the movement of avocado for the export and domestic markets."

FAS/Mexico comment: On June 2003, the Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) published in the Federal Register the "Availability of a Draft Pest Risk Analysis for the Importation of Hass Avocado Fruit From Mexico". The risk assessment responds to a Michoacan producers' request to remove certain restrictions on the importation of avocados from Mexico and allow imports of Mexican Hass avocados to the U.S. during the entire year. Currently, avocado imports are restricted to Alaska and 31 northeastern and north central states from October 15 through April 15. Reportedly, the authorized exporting municipalities in Michoacan have been free of the above-mentioned pests for over six years, providing large amounts of premium quality avocados for the US market.

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FAS Mexico Web Site: We are available at [http:// www.fas-la.com/mexico](http://www.fas-la.com/mexico) or visit our Headquarter's home page at <http://www.fas.usda.gov> for a complete selection of FAS' worldwide agricultural reporting.